



P29836.A03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Masahiro SAMEI et al. Group Art Unit: 2852
Appln. No. : 10/576,307 Examiner: S.S.Y. Lee
(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/014649)
I.A. Filed : October 5, 2004 Confirmation No. : 4488
For : FIXING APPARATUS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were previously filed on April 2, 2008 and July 6, 2006, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner a Japanese Office Action dated April 15, 2008 with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent Application No. 2005-514738, in which the following documents were cited:

- (1) Japanese Patent Publication No. 2000-268952 A, together with an English language Abstract and partial English language translation thereof; and
- (2) Japanese Patent Publication No. 5-9027 B2, together with an English language Abstract of corresponding Japanese Patent Publication No. 62-150371 A.

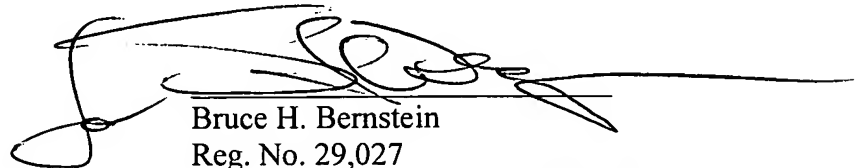
The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the Japanese claims by the Japanese Examiner, is set forth in the Japanese Office Action.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted Japanese documents, including the noted English language Abstracts and translations, are attached hereto, and are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. A copy of English language translation for the Japanese Office Action thereof is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to the notice of allowance, Applicants have included herewith a check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p). Applicants furthermore certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Masahiro SAMEI et al.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce H. Bernstein", is written over a horizontal line.

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July 1, 2008
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